

# Modularity of trace functions in orbifold theory for $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vertex operator superalgebras

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## Abstract

We study the trace functions in orbifold theory for  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vertex operator superalgebras and obtain a modular invariance result. More precisely, let  $V$  be a  $C_2$ -cofinite  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vertex operator superalgebra and  $G$  a finite automorphism group of  $V$ . Then for any commuting pairs  $(g, h) \in G$ , the  $h\sigma$ -trace functions associated to the simple  $g$ -twisted  $V$ -modules are holomorphic in the upper half plane where  $\sigma$  is the canonical involution on  $V$  coming from the superspace structure of  $V$ . If  $V$  is further  $g$ -rational for every  $g \in G$ , the trace functions afford a representation for the full modular group  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ .

## 1 Introduction

This work is a continuation of our study of the modular invariance for trace functions in orbifold theory. Motivated by the generalized moonshine [N] and orbifold theory in physics [DVVV], the modular invariance of trace functions in orbifold theory has been studied for an arbitrary vertex operator algebra [DLM3]. This work has been generalized to a  $\frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vertex operator superalgebra [DZ2] (also see [H]). In this paper we investigate the modular invariance of trace functions in orbifold theory for a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vertex operator superalgebra.

It is true that many  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vertex operator superalgebra can be obtained from a  $\frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vertex operator superalgebra by changing the Virasoro element (cf. [DM2]). In this case we can apply the results from [DZ1] and [DZ2] to these  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vertex operator superalgebras without extra work. Unfortunately, there are many  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vertex operator superalgebras which can not be obtained in this way. So an independent study of  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vertex operator superalgebra becomes necessary although the main ideas and methods in this paper are similar to those used in [Z], [DLM3] and [DZ2].

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There is a subtle difference among these modular invariance results. In order to explain this we fix a finite automorphism group of the vertex operator (super)algebra. We use  $g$  and  $h$  for two commuting elements in  $G$ . For the vertex operator superalgebra, there is a special automorphism  $\sigma$  of order 2 coming from the structure of the superspace. The involution  $\sigma$  can be expressed as  $(-1)^F$  in the physics literature (cf. [GSW], [P]) where  $F$  is the fermion number. Here is the difference: for a vertex operator algebra, the space of all  $h$ -trace on  $g$ -twisted sectors is modular invariant [DLM3], for  $\frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vertex operator superalgebra, the space of all  $h\sigma$ -trace on  $g\sigma$ -twisted sectors is modular invariant [DZ2], and for  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vertex operator superalgebra, the space of all  $h\sigma$ -trace on  $g$ -twisted sectors is modular invariant. It is worthy to point out that the  $h\sigma$ -trace in the physics literature is called the super trace.

Since the setting and most results in this paper are similar to those in [DLM2], [DLM3], [DZ1], and [DZ2], we refer the reader in many places to these papers for details.

The organization of this paper is as follows: In section 2, we review the definition of  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vertex operator superalgebra (VOSA) and various notions of  $g$ -twisted modules. Section 3 is devoted to studying the representation theory for  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded VOSA. We introduce the associative algebra  $A_g(V)$ , and investigate the relation between the  $g$ -twisted modules and  $A_g(V)$ -modules. Section 4 is the heart of the paper. We give the definition of 1-point functions on the torus and also establish the modular invariance property of it. We prove that for a simple  $g$ -twisted module  $M$ ,  $g$  and  $h$  are two commuting elements in  $Aut(V)$ ,  $M$  is  $\sigma, h$ -stable, then the  $h\sigma$ -trace functions for  $M$  are 1-point function. Moreover, when  $V$  is  $g$ -rational, the collection of trace functions associated to the collection of inequivalent simple  $h\sigma, h$  stable  $g$ -twisted  $V$  modules form a basis of  $\mathcal{C}(g, h)$ . In Section 5 we discuss an example to show the modularity of trace functions.

## 2 $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vertex operator superalgebras

Let  $V = V_0 \oplus V_1$  be  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded vector space. For any  $v \in V_i$  with  $i = 0, 1$  we define  $\tilde{v} = i$ . Moreover, let  $\epsilon_{\mu, v} = (-1)^{\tilde{u}\tilde{v}}$  and  $\epsilon_v = (-1)^{\tilde{v}}$ .

**Definition 2.1** A  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vertex operator superalgebra ( *$\mathbb{Z}$ -graded VOSA*) is a  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded vector space

$$V = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} V_n = V_0 \oplus V_1 = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} (V_{0,n} \oplus V_{1,n}) \quad (\text{wt } v = n \text{ if } v \in V_n)$$

together with two distinct vectors  $\mathbf{1} \in V_{0,0}$ ,  $\omega \in V_{0,2}$  and equipped with a linear map

$$\begin{aligned} V &\rightarrow (\text{End } V)[[z, z^{-1}]], \\ v &\mapsto Y(v, z) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} v(n) z^{-n-1} \quad (v(n) \in \text{End } V) \end{aligned}$$

satisfying the following axioms for  $u, v \in V$ :

- (i)  $u(n)v = 0$  for sufficiently large  $n$ ;
- (ii) If  $u \in V_i$  and  $v \in V_j$ , then  $u(n)v \in V_{i+j}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ ;
- (iii)  $Y(\mathbf{1}, z) = \text{Id}_V$  and  $Y(v, z)\mathbf{1} = v + \sum_{n \geq 2} v(-n)\mathbf{1}z^{n-1}$ ;
- (iv) Set  $Y(\omega, z) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} L(n)z^{-n-2}$  then

$$[L(m), L(n)] = (m - n)L(m + n) + \frac{1}{12}(m^3 - m)\delta_{m+n,0}c \quad (2.1)$$

where  $c \in \mathbb{C}$  is called the central charge, and

$$L(0)|_{V_n} = n, \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad (2.2)$$

$$\frac{d}{dz}Y(v, z) = Y(L(-1)v, z); \quad (2.3)$$

(v) For  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -homogeneous  $u, v \in V$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} z_0^{-1} \delta \left( \frac{z_1 - z_2}{z_0} \right) Y(u, z_1) Y(v, z_2) - \epsilon_{u,v} z_0^{-1} \delta \left( \frac{z_2 - z_1}{-z_0} \right) Y(v, z_2) Y(u, z_1) \\ = z_2^{-1} \delta \left( \frac{z_1 - z_0}{z_2} \right) Y(Y(u, z_0)v, z_2) \end{aligned} \quad (2.4)$$

where  $\delta(z) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} z^n$  and  $(z_i - z_j)^n$  is expanded in nonnegative powers of  $z_j$  and  $z_0, z_1, z_2$ , etc. are independent commuting formal variables.

Following the proof of Theorem 4.21 of [Z] we can also define  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vertex operator superalgebra on a torus associated to  $V$ .

**Theorem 2.2**  $(V, Y[\ ], \mathbf{1}, \tilde{\omega})$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vertex operator superalgebra, where  $\tilde{\omega} = \omega - \frac{c}{24}$  and for homogeneous  $v \in V$

$$Y[v, z] = Y(v, e^z - 1)e^{z \text{wt} v} = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} v[n] z^{-n-1} \quad (2.5)$$

Let  $Y[\tilde{\omega}, z] = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} L[n] z^{-n-2}$ . Then  $V = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} V[n]$  is again  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded and  $L[0] = n$  on  $V[n]$ . We will write  $\text{wt}[v] = n$  if  $v \in V[n]$ .

**Definition 2.3** A linear automorphism  $g$  of a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded VOSA  $V$  is called an automorphism of  $V$  if  $g$  preserves  $\mathbf{1}$ ,  $\omega$  and each  $V_i$ , and

$$gY(v, z)g^{-1} = Y(gv, z)$$

for  $v \in V$ .

Note that if  $V$  is a  $\frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vertex operator superalgebra, the assumption that  $g$  preserves each  $V_i$  is unnecessary (cf. [DZ2]).

We denote the full automorphism group by  $\text{Aut}(V)$ . If we define an action, say  $\sigma$  on  $V$  associated to the superspace structure of  $V$  via  $\sigma|V_i = (-1)^i$ . Then  $\sigma$  is a central element of  $\text{Aut}(V)$  and will play a special role as in [DZ2].

Let  $g$  be an automorphism of  $V$  of finite order  $T$ . Then we have the following eigenspace decomposition:

$$V = \bigoplus_{r \in \mathbb{Z}/T\mathbb{Z}} V^r \quad (2.6)$$

where  $V^r = \{v \in V | gv = e^{-2\pi ir/T} v\}$ . We now give various notions of  $g$ -twisted  $V$ -modules.

**Definition 2.4** *A weak  $g$ -twisted  $V$ -module is a  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear space  $M$  equipped with a linear map*

$$\begin{aligned} V &\rightarrow (\text{End } M)[[z^{1/T}, z^{-1/T}]] \\ v &\mapsto Y_M(v, z) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Q}} v(n) z^{-n-1} \end{aligned}$$

which satisfies:

- (i)  $v(m)w = 0$  for  $v \in V, w \in M$  and  $m \gg 0$ ;
- (ii)  $Y_M(\mathbf{1}, z) = \text{Id}_M$ ;
- (iii) For  $v \in V^r$  and  $0 \leq r \leq T-1$

$$Y_M(v, z) = \sum_{n \in \frac{r}{T} + \mathbb{Z}} v(n) z^{-n-1};$$

- (iv) For  $u \in V^r$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} z_0^{-1} \delta \left( \frac{z_1 - z_2}{z_0} \right) Y_M(u, z_1) Y_M(v, z_2) - \epsilon_{u,v} z_0^{-1} \delta \left( \frac{z_2 - z_1}{-z_0} \right) Y_M(v, z_2) Y_M(u, z_1) \\ = z_2^{-1} \left( \frac{z_1 - z_0}{z_2} \right)^{-r/T} \delta \left( \frac{z_1 - z_0}{z_2} \right) Y_M(Y(u, z_0)v, z_2) \end{aligned} \quad (2.7)$$

Set

$$Y_M(\omega, z) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} L(n) z^{-n-2}.$$

Then we have  $Y_M(L(-1)v, z) = \frac{d}{dz} Y_M(v, z)$  for  $v \in V$  and  $L(n)$  also satisfy the Virasoro algebra relation with central charge  $c$  (see [DLM1]).

**Definition 2.5** *A weak  $g$ -twisted  $V$ -module  $M$  is admissible if it is  $\frac{1}{T}\mathbb{Z}_+$ -graded:*

$$M = \bigoplus_{0 \leq n \in \frac{1}{T}\mathbb{Z}} M(n) \quad (2.8)$$

such that for homogeneous  $v \in V$ ,

$$v(m)M(n) \subseteq M(n + \text{wt}v - m - 1) \quad (2.9)$$

We may and do assume that  $M(0) \neq 0$  if  $M \neq 0$ .

**Definition 2.6** A weak  $g$ -twisted  $V$ -module  $M$  is called (ordinary)  $g$ -twisted  $V$ -module if it is a  $\mathbb{C}$ -graded with

$$M = \coprod_{\lambda \in \mathbb{C}} M_\lambda \quad (2.10)$$

where  $M_\lambda = \{w \in M \mid L(0)w = \lambda w\}$  such that  $\dim M_\lambda$  is finite and for fixed  $\lambda$ ,  $M_{\frac{n}{T} + \lambda} = 0$  for all small enough integers  $n$ .

It is not hard to prove that any ordinary  $g$ -twisted  $V$ -module is admissible. The notion of weak, admissible and ordinary  $V$ -modules is just the special case when  $g = 1$ .

If  $M$  is a simple  $g$ -twisted  $V$ -module, then

$$M = \bigoplus_{n=0}^{\infty} M_{\lambda + n/T} \quad (2.11)$$

for some  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  such that  $M_\lambda \neq 0$  (cf. [Z]).  $\lambda$  is defined to be the *conformal weight* of  $M$ .

**Definition 2.7** (i) A  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded VOSA  $V$  is called  $g$ -rational for an automorphism  $g$  of finite order if the category of admissible modules is completely reducible.  $V$  is called rational if it's 1-rational.

(ii)  $V$  is called holomorphic if  $V$  is rational and  $V$  is the only irreducible  $V$ -module up to isomorphism.

(iii)  $V$  is called  $g$ -regular if any weak  $g$ -twisted  $V$ -module is a direct sum of irreducible ordinary  $g$ -twisted  $V$ -modules.

As in [DLM2] and [DZ1] we have the following result.

**Theorem 2.8** If  $V$  is  $g$ -rational  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded VOSA with  $g \in \text{Aut}(V)$  being of finite order then

(i) There are only finitely many irreducible admissible  $g$ -twisted  $V$ -modules up to isomorphism.

(ii) Each irreducible admissible  $g$ -twisted  $V$ -module is ordinary.

### 3 The associative algebra $A_g(V)$

In this section we construct the associative algebra  $A_g(V)$  and study the relation between admissible  $g$ -twisted  $V$ -modules and  $A_g(V)$ -modules. The result is similar to those obtained in [DLM2] (also see [Z], [KW], [X], [DZ1]).

As before we assume that the order of  $g$  is  $T$ . For  $0 \leq r \leq T-1$  we define  $\delta_r = \delta_{r,0}$ . Let  $O_g(V)$  be the linear span of all  $u \circ_g v$ , where for homogeneous  $u \in V^r$  (cf. (2.6)) and  $v \in V$ ,

$$u \circ_g v = \text{Res}_z \frac{(1+z)^{\text{wt}u-1+\delta_r+\frac{r}{T}}}{z^{1+\delta_r}} Y(u, z)v. \quad (3.1)$$

Set  $A_g(V) = V/O_g(V)$  and define a second linear product  $*_g$  on  $V$  for the above  $u, v$  as follows:

$$u *_g v = \text{Res}_z Y(u, z) \frac{(1+z)^{\text{wt}u}}{z} v \quad (3.2)$$

if  $r = 0$  and  $u *_g v = 0$  if  $r > 0$ . It is easy to see that  $A_g(V)$  is in fact a quotient of  $V^0$ .

As in [DLM2], [X] and [DZ2] we have

**Theorem 3.1**  *$A_g(V) = V/O_g(V)$  is an associative algebra with identity  $\mathbf{1} + O_g(V)$  under the product  $*_g$ . Moreover,  $\omega + O_g(V)$  lies in the center of  $A_g(V)$ .*

For a weak  $g$ -twisted  $V$ -module  $M$ , we define the space of the lowest weight vectors

$$\Omega(M) = \{w \in M \mid u(\text{wt}u - 1 + n)w = 0, u \in V, n > 0\}.$$

We have (see [DLM2]):

**Theorem 3.2** *Let  $M$  be a weak  $g$ -twisted  $V$ -module. Then*

- (i)  $\Omega(M)$  is an  $A_g(V)$ -module such that  $v + O_g(V)$  acts as  $o(v)$ .
- (ii) If  $M = \sum_{n \geq 0} M(n/T)$  is an admissible  $g$ -twisted  $V$ -module such that  $M(0) \neq 0$ , then  $M(0) \subset \Omega(M)$  is an  $A_g(V)$ -submodule. Moreover,  $M$  is irreducible if and only if  $M(0) = \Omega(M)$  and  $M(0)$  is a simple  $A_g(V)$ -module.
- (iii) The map  $M \rightarrow M(0)$  gives a 1-1 correspondence between the irreducible admissible  $g$ -twisted  $V$ -modules and simple  $A_g(V)$ -modules.

We also have (see [DLM2]):

**Theorem 3.3** *Suppose that  $V$  is a  $g$ -rational vertex operator superalgebra. Then the following hold:*

- (i)  $A_g(V)$  is a finite dimensional semisimple associative algebra.
- (ii)  $V$  has only finitely many irreducible admissible  $g$ -twisted modules up to isomorphism.
- (iii) Every irreducible admissible  $g$ -twisted  $V$ -module is ordinary.
- (iv)  $V$  is  $g^{-1}$ -rational.

## 4 Modularity of trace functions

We are working in the setting of section 5 in [DLM3]. In particular,  $g, h$  are commuting elements in  $\text{Aut}(V)$  with finite orders  $o(g) = T, o(h) = T_1$ ,  $A$  is the subgroup of  $\text{Aut}(V)$  generated by  $g$  and  $h$ ,  $N = \text{lcm}(T, T_1)$  is the exponent of  $A$ ,  $\Gamma(T, T_1)$  is the subgroup of matrices  $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$  in  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  satisfying  $a \equiv d \equiv 1 \pmod{N}$ ,  $b \equiv 0 \pmod{T}$ ,  $c \equiv 0 \pmod{T_1}$  and  $M(T, T_1)$  be the ring of holomorphic modular forms on  $\Gamma(T, T_1)$  with natural gradation  $M(T, T_1) = \bigoplus_{k \geq 0} M_k(T, T_1)$ , where  $M_k(T, T_1)$  is the space of forms of weight  $k$ . Then  $M(T, T_1)$  is a Noetherian ring.

Recall the Bernoulli polynomials  $B_r(x) \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$  defined by

$$\frac{te^{tx}}{(e^t - 1)} = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} \frac{B_r(x)t^r}{r!}.$$

For even  $k \geq 2$ , the normalized Eisenstein series  $E_k(\alpha)$  is given by

$$E_k(\tau) = \frac{-B_k}{k!} + \frac{2}{(k-1)!} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sigma_{k-1}(n)q^n. \quad (4.1)$$

Also introduce

$$\begin{aligned} Q_k(\mu, \lambda, q_\tau) &= Q_k(\mu, \lambda, \tau) \\ &= \frac{1}{(k-1)!} \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{\lambda(n + j/T)^{k-1} q_\tau^{n+j/T}}{1 - \lambda q_\tau^{n+j/T}} \\ &\quad + \frac{(-1)^k}{(k-1)!} \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{\lambda^{-1}(n - j/T)^{k-1} q_\tau^{n-j/T}}{1 - \lambda^{-1} q_\tau^{n-j/T}} - \frac{B_k(j/T)}{k!} \end{aligned} \quad (4.2)$$

for  $(\mu, \lambda) = (e^{\frac{2\pi i j}{T}}, e^{\frac{2\pi i l}{T_1}})$  and  $(\mu, \lambda) \neq (1, 1)$ , when  $k \geq 1$  and  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Here  $(n + j/T)^{k-1} = 1$  if  $n = 0, j = 0$  and  $k = 1$ . Similarly,  $(n - j/T)^{k-1} = 1$  if  $n = 1, j = M$  and  $k = 1$ . We also define

$$Q_0(\mu, \lambda, \tau) = -1. \quad (4.3)$$

It is proved in [DLM3] that  $E_{2k}, Q_r$  are contained in  $M(T, T_1)$  for  $k \geq 2$  and  $r \geq 0$ .

Set  $V(T, T_1) = M(T, T_1) \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} V$ . Given  $v \in V$  with  $gv = \mu^{-1}v, hv = \lambda^{-1}v$  we define a vector space  $O(g, h)$  which is a  $M(T, T_1)$ -submodule of  $V(T, T_1)$  consisting of the following elements:

$$v[0]w, w \in V, (\mu, \lambda) = (1, 1) \quad (4.4)$$

$$v[-2]w + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} (2k-1)E_{2k}(\tau) \otimes v[2k-2]w, (\mu, \lambda) = (1, 1) \quad (4.5)$$

$$v, (\epsilon_v, \mu, \lambda) \neq (1, 1, 1) \quad (4.6)$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} Q_k(\mu, \lambda, \tau) \otimes v[k-1]w, (\mu, \lambda) \neq (1, 1). \quad (4.7)$$

**Definition 4.1** Let  $\mathfrak{h}$  denote the upper half plane. The space of  $(g, h)$  1-point functions  $\mathcal{C}(g, h)$  is defined to be the  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear space consisting of functions

$$S : V(T, T_1) \times \mathfrak{h} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

s.t

- (i)  $S(v, \tau)$  is holomorphic in  $\tau$  for  $v \in V(T, T_1)$ .
- (ii)  $S(v, \tau)$  is  $\mathbb{C}$  linear in  $v$  and for  $f \in M(T, T_1)$ ,  $v \in V$ ,

$$S(f \otimes v, \tau) = f(\tau)S(v, \tau)$$

- (iii)  $S(v, \tau) = 0$  if  $v \in O(g, h)$ .
- (iv) If  $v \in V$  with  $\sigma v = gv = hv = v$ , then

$$S(L[-2]v, \tau) = \partial S(v, \tau) + \sum_{l=2}^{\infty} E_{2l}(\tau)S(L[2l-2]v, \tau). \quad (4.8)$$

Here  $\partial S$  is the operator which is linear in  $v$  and satisfies

$$\partial S(v, \tau) = \partial_k S(v, \tau) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \frac{d}{d\tau} S(v, \tau) + kE_2(\tau)S(v, \tau) \quad (4.9)$$

for  $v \in V_{[k]}$ .

We have the following modular invariance result (see Theorem 5.4 of [DLM3]):

**Theorem 4.2** For  $S \in \mathcal{C}(g, h)$  and  $\gamma = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma$ , we define

$$S|_{\gamma}(v, \tau) = S|_k \gamma(v, \tau) = (c\tau + d)^{-k} S(v, \gamma\tau) \quad (4.10)$$

for  $v \in V_{[k]}$ , and extend linearly. Then  $S|_{\gamma} \in \mathcal{C}((g, h)\gamma)$ .

Let  $g, h, \sigma, V$  be as before, and  $M$  be a simple  $g$ -twisted module. We now show how the graded  $h\sigma$ -trace functions on  $g$ -twisted  $V$ -modules produce  $(g, h)$  1-point functions.

From (2.11), we know that if  $M$  is a simple  $g$ -twisted module then there exists a complex number  $\lambda$  such that

$$M = \bigoplus_{n=0}^{\infty} M_{\lambda + \frac{n}{T}} \quad (4.11)$$



Now we define a  $(h\sigma)g(h\sigma)^{-1}$ -twisted  $V$ -module  $(h\sigma \circ M, Y_{h\sigma \circ M})$  such that  $h\sigma \circ M = M$  as vector spaces and

$$Y_{h\sigma \circ M}(v, z) = Y_M((h\sigma)^{-1}v, z).$$

Since  $g, h, \sigma$  commute each other,  $h\sigma \circ M$  is, in fact, a simple  $g$ -twisted  $V$ -module again. The  $M$  is called  $h$ -stable if  $h\sigma \circ M$  and  $M$  are isomorphic  $g$ -twisted  $V$ -modules. In this case, there is a linear map  $\phi(h\sigma) : M \rightarrow M$  such that

$$\phi(h\sigma)Y_M(v, z)\phi(h\sigma)^{-1} = Y_M((h\sigma)v, z) \quad (4.12)$$

for all  $v \in V$ .

We now assume that  $M$  is  $h$ -stable. For homogeneous  $v \in V$ , we define the trace function  $T$  as follows:

$$T(v) = T_M(v, (g, h), q) = z^{\text{wt}v} \text{tr}_M Y_M(v, z) \phi(h\sigma) q^{L(0) - \frac{c}{24}} \quad (4.13)$$

Here  $c$  is the central charge of  $V$ . Note that for  $m \in \frac{1}{T}\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $v(m)$  maps  $M_\mu$  to  $M_{\mu + \text{wt}v - m - 1}$ . Hence

$$T(v) = q^{\lambda - \frac{c}{24}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \text{tr}_{M_{\lambda + \frac{n}{T}}} o(v) \phi(h\sigma) q^{\frac{n}{T}} = \text{tr}_M o(v) \phi(h\sigma) q^{L(0) - \frac{c}{24}}. \quad (4.14)$$

In order to state the next theorem we need to recall  $C_2$ -cofinite condition from [Z].  $V$  is called  $C_2$ -cofinite if  $V/C_2(V)$  is finite dimensional where  $C_2(V) = \{u_{-2}v | u, v \in V\}$ .

**Theorem 4.3** *Suppose that  $V$  is  $C_2$ -cofinite,  $g, h \in \text{Aut}(V)$  commute and have finite orders. Let  $M$  be a simple  $g$ -twisted  $V$ -module such that  $M$  is  $h$  and  $\sigma$ -stable. Then the trace function  $T_M(v, (g, h), q)$  converges to a holomorphic function in the upper half plane  $\mathfrak{h}$  where  $q = e^{2\pi i\tau}$  and  $\tau \in \mathfrak{h}$ . Moreover,  $T_M \in \mathcal{C}(g, h)$ .*

The proof of this theorem is similar to Theorem 4.3 of [DZ2] although the idea goes back to [Z] and [DLM3].

We also have the following theorems.

**Theorem 4.4** *Let  $M^1, M^2, \dots, M^s$  be the collection of inequivalent simple  $h\sigma$  and  $\sigma$ -stable  $g$ -twisted  $V$ -modules, then the corresponding trace functions  $T_1, T_2, \dots, T_s$  (4.13) are independent vectors of  $\mathcal{C}(g, h)$ . Moreover, if  $V$  is  $g$ -rational,  $T_1, T_2, \dots, T_s$  form a basis of  $\mathcal{C}(g, h)$ .*

The following theorem is an immediate consequence of Theorem 4.3 and Theorem 4.4.

**Theorem 4.5** *Suppose that  $V$  is a  $C_2$ -cofinite vertex operator superalgebra and  $G$  a finite group of automorphisms of  $V$ . Assume that  $V$  is  $x$ -rational for each  $x \in \bar{G}$ . Let  $v \in V$  satisfy  $\text{wt}[v] = k$ . Then the space of (holomorphic) functions in  $\mathfrak{h}$  spanned by the trace functions  $T_M(v, (g, h), \tau)$  for all choices of  $g, h$  in  $G$  and  $\sigma, h$ -stable  $M$  is a (finite-dimensional)  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ -module such that*

$$T_M|\gamma(v, (g, h), \tau) = (c\tau + d)^{-k} T_M(v, (g, h), \gamma\tau),$$

where  $\gamma \in SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  acts on  $\mathfrak{h}$  as usual.

More precisely, if  $\gamma = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  then we have an equality

$$T_M(v, (g, h), \frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d}) = (c\tau + d)^k \sum_W \gamma_{M,W} T_W(v, (g^a h^c, g^b h^d), \tau),$$

where  $W$  ranges over the  $g^a h^c$ -twisted sectors which are  $g^b h^d$  and  $\sigma$ -stable. The constants  $\gamma_{M,W}$  depend only on  $M, W$  and  $\gamma$  only.

**Theorem 4.6** *Let  $V$  be a rational and  $C_2$ -cofinite  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded VOSA. Let  $M^1, M^2, \dots, M^s$  be the collection of inequivalent simple  $\sigma$ -stable  $V$ -modules. Then the space spanned by*

$$T_i(v, \tau) = T_i(v, (1, 1), \tau) = \text{tr}_{M^i} \phi(v) \phi(\sigma) q^{L(0) - \frac{c}{24}} \quad (4.15)$$

gives a representation of the modular group. To be more precisely, for any  $\gamma = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma$  there exists a  $s \times s$  invertible complex matrix  $(\gamma_{ij})$  such that

$$T_i(v, \frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d}) = (c\tau + d)^n \sum_{j=1}^s \gamma_{ij} T_j(v, \tau)$$

for all  $v \in V_{[n]}$ . Moreover, the matrix  $(\gamma_{ij})$  is independent of  $v$ .

**Remark 4.7** *It is interesting to notice that the modular invariance result in Theorem 4.6 is different from that for the vertex operator algebras in [Z] and for the  $\frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vertex operator superalgebras in [DZ2]. In this case of vertex operator algebras, the space of the graded trace of simple modules is modular invariant [Z]. But for the  $\frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vertex operator superalgebras, the space of the graded  $\sigma$  trace on the simple  $\sigma$ -twisted modules is modular invariant. In the present situation, the space of the graded  $\sigma$  trace on the simple  $V$ -modules is modular invariant.*

One can also obtain the results such as the number of inequivalent,  $h, \sigma$ -stable simple  $g$ -twisted  $V$ -modules and rationality of central charges and conformal weights for rational vertex operator superalgebras as in [DLM3] and [DZ2].

## 5 An example

In this section we consider  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded VOSA  $V_{\mathbb{Z}\alpha}$  and its  $\sigma$ -twisted module  $V_{\mathbb{Z}\alpha+\frac{1}{2}\alpha}$  to demonstrate the modular invariance directly.

We are working in the setting of Chapter 8 of [FLM2]. Let  $L = \mathbb{Z}\alpha$  be a nondegenerate lattice of rank 1 with  $\mathbb{Z}$ -valued symmetric  $\mathbb{Z}$ -bilinear form  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  s.t.  $\langle \alpha, \alpha \rangle = 1$ . Set  $M(1) = \mathbb{C}[\alpha(-n) | n > 0]$  and let  $\mathbb{C}[L]$  be the group algebra of the abelian group  $L$ . Set  $\mathbf{1} = 1 \otimes e^0 \in V_L$  and  $\omega = \frac{1}{2}\alpha(-1)\alpha(-1)$ .

Recall that a vertex operator (super)algebra is called *holomorphic* if it is rational and the only irreducible module is itself. We have the following theorem (see [B], [FLM2], [D], [DLM1], [DM1]).

**Theorem 5.1** (i)  $(V_L, Y, \mathbf{1}, \omega)$  is a holomorphic  $\frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vertex operator superalgebra with central charge  $c = \text{rank}(L) = 1$ .

(ii)  $(V_L)_{\bar{0}} = M(1) \otimes \mathbb{C}[2L]$  and  $(V_L)_{\bar{1}} = M(1) \otimes \mathbb{C}[2L + \alpha]$ .

(iii)  $V_{L+\frac{1}{2}\alpha}$  is the unique irreducible  $\sigma$ -twisted module for  $V_L$ .

One can verify the next theorem easily.

**Theorem 5.2** (i) If we let  $\omega' = \frac{1}{2}\alpha(-1)^2 \pm \frac{1}{2}\alpha(-2)$ , then  $(V_L, Y, \mathbf{1}, \omega')$  is a holomorphic  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vertex operator superalgebra with central charge  $c' = -2$ .

(ii)  $V_{L+\frac{1}{2}\alpha}$  is the unique irreducible  $\sigma$ -twisted module for  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vertex operator superalgebra  $V_L$ .

We consider the group  $G$  to be the cyclic group generated by  $\sigma$ . It is straightforward to compute the following trace functions:

$$\begin{aligned} T(\mathbf{1}, (1, 1), \tau) &= \text{tr}_{V_{\mathbb{Z}\alpha}} \sigma q^{L(0)' - \frac{-2}{24}} \\ &= q^{\frac{1}{12}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P(n) q^n \sum_{s=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^s q^{\frac{s(s-1)}{2}} \\ &= \eta(\tau)^{-1} \theta_1(q), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} T(\mathbf{1}, (1, \sigma), \tau) &= \text{tr}_{V_{\mathbb{Z}\alpha}} q^{L'(0)' - \frac{-2}{24}} \\ &= q^{\frac{1}{12}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P(n) q^n \sum_{s=-\infty}^{\infty} q^{\frac{s(s-1)}{2}} \\ &= \eta(\tau)^{-1} \theta_2(q), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} T(\mathbf{1}, (\sigma, \sigma), \tau) &= \text{tr}_{V_{\mathbb{Z}\alpha+\frac{1}{2}\alpha}} q^{L'(0)' - \frac{-2}{24}} \\ &= q^{\frac{1}{12}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P(n) q^n \sum_{s=-\infty}^{\infty} q^{\frac{(s+\frac{1}{2})(s-\frac{1}{2})}{2}} \\ &= \eta(\tau)^{-1} \theta_3(q), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
T(\mathbf{1}, (\sigma, 1), \tau) &= \text{tr}_{V_{\mathbb{Z}\alpha + \frac{1}{2}\alpha}} \sigma q^{L'(0) - \frac{-2}{24}} \\
&= q^{\frac{1}{12}} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 + q^n) \sum_{s=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^s q^{\frac{(s+\frac{1}{2})(s-\frac{1}{2})}{2}} \\
&= \eta(\tau)^{-1} \theta_4(q),
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
\eta(\tau) &= q^{\frac{1}{24}} \prod_{n \geq 1} (1 - q^n) \\
\theta_1(q) &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{\frac{1}{2}(n-\frac{1}{2})^2} = 0 \\
\theta_2(q) &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} q^{\frac{1}{2}(n-\frac{1}{2})^2} \\
\theta_3(q) &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} q^{\frac{1}{2}n^2} \\
\theta_4(q) &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{\frac{1}{2}n^2}.
\end{aligned}$$

Recall the transformation law for  $\eta$  functions

$$\eta(\tau + 1) = e^{\frac{\pi i}{12}} \eta(\tau), \quad \eta\left(-\frac{1}{\tau}\right) = (-i\tau)^{\frac{1}{2}} \eta(\tau)$$

$$\eta\left(\frac{\tau + 1}{2}\right) = \frac{\eta(\tau)^3}{\eta(\frac{\tau}{2})\eta(2\tau)}$$

and relations

$$\begin{aligned}
\theta_2(q) &= 2 \frac{\eta(2\tau)^2}{\eta(\tau)} \\
\theta_3(q) &= \frac{\eta(\tau)^5}{\eta(2\tau)^2 \eta(\frac{\tau}{2})^2} \\
\theta_4(q) &= \frac{\eta(\frac{\tau}{2})^2}{\eta(\tau)}.
\end{aligned}$$

The modular transformation property for  $T(\mathbf{1}, (g, h), \tau)$  for  $g, h \in G$  can easily be verified and the result, of course, is the same as what Theorem 4.5 claimed. One can also compute the trace functions for the  $\frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vertex operator superalgebra  $V_L$  notice that the sets of trace functions in two cases are exactly the same. Since  $V_L$  and  $V(H, \mathbb{Z} + \frac{1}{2})$  with  $l = 2$  are isomorphic  $\frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vertex operator superalgebra (the boson-fermion correspondence) one can use the modular invariance result for  $V(H, \mathbb{Z} + \frac{1}{2})$  obtained in [DZ2] to check the modular transformation property of the trace functions for the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vertex operator superalgebra  $V_L$ .

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